

Sainikov's records grace match

Leningrader Vladimir Sainikov is the world's only swimmer to swim twice the 1,500 m freestyle in less than 15 min. He clocked 14:58.27 at the Moscow Olympics and 14:56.35, a new world mark, on March 13 during the USSR-GDR match in the 50 m Olimpitskiy Swimming Pool. Earlier he set a new world record of 3:49.57 in the 400 m.

Sainikov is a unique swimmer, says Merited Master of Sport Vladimir Burc. Even though our swimmers lost to the visitors, 155-189, our team is



on the right rail in its preparations for the world championships due in Ecuador in August. The Soviet men prevailed over their counterparts, while the Soviet women went down to the visitors, even having set four national records. Of the 21 USSR-GDR encounters to date the USSR has won 11.

Kazakov out on top

Sergei Kazakov, 28, USSR ice-racing champion, has captured the world title, too, in a

World Cup for Ulrich

Biatathlete Frank Ulrich, the GDR, who recently captured two golds at the world championships in Renick, the USSR, has also picked up the World Cup coming home fourth in the 10 km race at the celebrated Laili Games. The winner Mattias Joho, also the GDR, was runner-up ahead of Kjell Sbak, Norway.

Alpine skiers back in Europe

After a jump across the Atlantic, the "skiing caravan" coedding the World Cup has returned to Europe. The downhillers competed in Aspen, the USA. Despite two wins there for twice world champion Peter Mueller, of Switzerland, he still failed to take the small Crystal Globe for winning the event. It went to Canadian Steve Podhorski. Mueller came second and 1982 world champion Harri Wetzsteiner, from Austria, third.

After returning to Europe, the skiers competed in the giant and special slalom in the village of Jssna, Czechoslovakia. On the first day victory went to giant slalom master Steve Mahre, of the USA, and on the second, to his twin brother Phil, whose Cup advantage over his nearest rival, Ingemar Stenmark, now stands at an overwhelming 299 points against 210. Steve Mahre, 24, occupies third place with 152 points.

TOUGH COMPETITION FOR 'MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI' PRIZE

The 9th International Gymnastic Competition for the "Moskovskiy Novosti" prize, due to start March 26, is arousing great interest among athletes and fans. Participation in the competition to be held at the Palace of Sport of the Moscow Lenin Central Stadium, has been confirmed by such gymnastic fashion-setters as Japan, the GDR, the USA, Hungary, as well as by Bulgaria, Cuba, the KPRD, the CPR, Czechoslovakia, Great Britain, Canada, Yugoslavia, Italy, France and Finland. The competition will start at the new season during which the Olympic teams will acquire their preliminary shape.

According to Olympic champion Yuri Titov, President of the International Gymnastic Federation, during the year that has passed since the previous meet, advances have been made in programme complexity as well as in the stability and reliability of performances.

There has been an increase both in virtuosity and artistic execution of complex compositions. The President considers that today's complex exercises are within the grasp of a greater number of athletes in more countries.

The Soviet gymnasts have recently been on a demonstration tour of South America performing in Brazil, Argentina and Peru. The trip provided an excellent school for young would-be aspirants to the national team, said Leonid Arkayev, Senior Coach to the men's national team. Audiences of at least 200,000 watched our demonstrations which contributed to the popularity of the sport in these countries.

To date all "Moskovskiy Novosti" winners have gone on to win world, European and Olympic medals. The competition's hosts therefore are entitled to expect new names and discoveries. For instance, Yuri Kurolyov from Vladimir, a

gymnast who was little known outside a narrow circle and a newcomer to the international podium and last year's champion, became absolute champion of the Moscow world championship several months after winning the "Moskovskiy Novosti" prize.

Kurolyov took over the lead from athlete Nikolai Andrianov, an ex-pupil from the Vladimir school of gymnastics, at many times world, European and Olympic champion. The competition will mark Andrianov's departure to the Red Army coaching. He is to coach a youth national team.

The press centre for the competition is at present still at the "Moskovskiy Novosti" office. In due course it will move to the Palace of Sport—on May 24, TASS, APN, the USSR Radio and TV, the Asahi Company from Japan, the Press Agency and "Gazeta" magazine have applied for accreditation.



The three best dancing pairs in the world (left to right): Belarova—Bukin (2nd place, USSR), Torvill—Dean (1st place, Great Britain) and Moiseyeva—Minenkova (3rd place, USSR). Photo AP4

NO GOLD THIS TIME

Elaine Zoyak, the USA, has won the women's singles, the closing event of the world figure-skating championship ended in Copenhagen, Denmark. She was the runner-up last year. Katarina Witt, the GDR, came second and European winner Claudia Kristofce-Binler, Austria, third. Moiseyeva and Minenkova were fifth.

Earlier Moiseyeva and Nalaya Bestemeyanova and Andrii Bukin and Irina Moiseyeva and Andrei Minenkova ended up second and third in the dance, behind twice gold medalists Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean.



Irina Sidoreva, of Moscow, who won the springboard dive at the "Spring Swallows" diving competition held at the Olimpitskiy Swimming Pool, in Moscow. Photo by Yuri Titov

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"MN Information" comes out on Tuesdays and Saturdays, and offers in brief the latest information on events in the USSR and in the world reported by TASS and foreign news agencies. Nothing short of the material carried in the editions of both "Moscow News" and "MN Information" gives you a full idea of life in the Soviet Union for the week.

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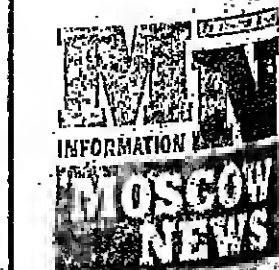
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LEONID BREZHNEV AND KAYSONE PHOMVICHANE MEET

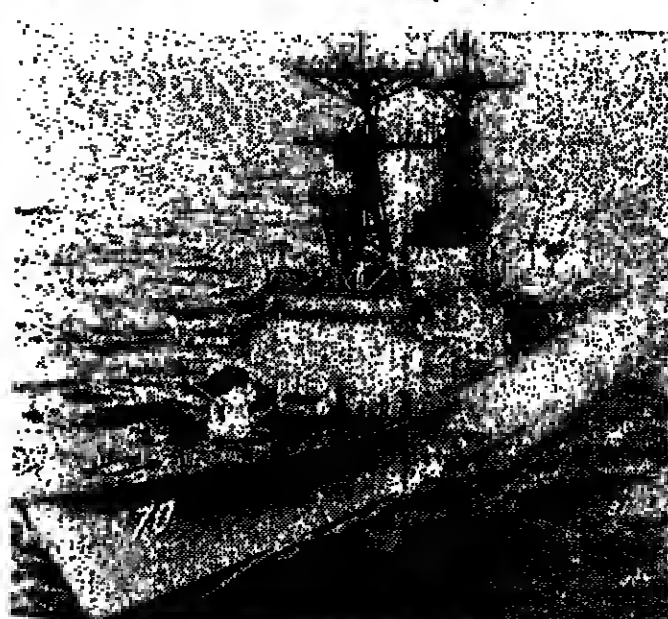
The peoples of the world have no more important task today than to erect a firm barrier against the threat of a new war, and to bring to a halt all further aggravation of international tension which is being stirred up by the forces of imperialism and reaction.

This conviction was voiced in the course of the Moscow meeting between Leonid Brezhnev and Kaysone Phomvihane, General Secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and Prime Minister of the LPDR. Leonid Brezhnev supported the steps being undertaken by Laos together with Vietnam and Kampuchea, to turn Southeast Asia into a zone of peace and stability. The Soviet Union approves the proposals to this effect put forward at the recent conference held in Vientiane between foreign affairs ministers of the Indochinese countries.

Leonid Brezhnev emphasized that the CPSU stands firm in its policy of developing comprehensive and close cooperation with fraternal Laos. Our cooperation, he said, has good, sound prospects.

Kaysone Phomvihane presented Leonid Brezhnev with the LPDR's highest award, the Gold Medal of Nation.

During his visit, the Soviet minister was received by the Indian President, Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and other Indian officials. Dmitry Ustinov also went on a tour of the country. In particular, he visited a naval base of the Western Zone, outside Bombay, the state-run Hal Aircraft-building corporation in Bangalore, and an air base in Jodhpur. The Soviet Defence Minister was also present during tank exercises in the state of Madhya Pradesh.



Of late, the American destroyer "Caron" has taken to cruising off the Salvadoran coast. It is fitted out with highly sophisticated electronic equipment for espionage operations. The US news agency notes that American spy ships have appeared in Fonseca Bay, a fact which reflects the growing American involvement in the war between the Salvadoran regime and the guerrillas.

FORUM OF SOVIET TRADE UNIONS

Trade unions can and should make a contribution towards preserving and developing détente, says the appeal to the working people and trade unions of the world issued by the 17th Congress of Trade Unions of the USSR. It is our common duty, it is emphasized in the appeal, to say "no" to the militarist psychosis, and to work to stop the arms race and to strengthen peace.

The arms race, it is stressed, depletes huge human and material resources and consumes thousands of millions of dollars. It is money that is being channelled towards creative purposes. It would provide millions of jobs and eliminate hunger, poverty, disease, illiteracy as well as contributing to the social and economic development of countries which have liberated themselves from the colonial yoke. The Soviet trade unions support the idea, put forward at the 10th World Trade Union Congress, that September 1, the day that World War II broke out — be declared a day of trade union action for peace and that it be marked each year by extensive anti-war actions.

Over the past five days five thousand delegates have discussed the further development of Soviet trade union activity. A lively response was aroused by Leonid Brezhnev's speech which proposed new constructive peace initiatives aimed at curbing the arms race and at averting the threat of nuclear war.

The All Union Central Committee of Trade Unions' Chairman, Stepan Shalyov, as well as congress delegates, drew special attention to the further development of socialist democracy; to the influence of trade unions on the economic and social development of society; to improving the working and living conditions of every working person; to the protection of workers' rights and to raising their well-being.

During the congress, Leonid Brezhnev, on the decision of the 10th World Trade Union Congress, was awarded the Gold Medal of the World Federation of Trade Unions.

On being presented with the medal, Leonid Brezhnev said in part: "Above all else, I see this award as signifying recognition by the international trade union movement of the work which is consistently being carried out by our Communist Party and state in the name of world peace, and the name of happiness for working people."

"The two objectives are closely connected. Without being content in tomorrow's peace, people cannot live and work in calm."

World stars on ice spectacular



A team of leading figure skaters, headed by Scott Hamilton (USA), recently staged an ice extravaganza at the Luzhniki Palace of Sport. It was their farewell until the next season. Photo by Boris Kaulman and Andrei Knyazev

Flowers and applause greeted the top international figure skaters who mounted exhibition performances in the Luzhniki Palace of Sport in Moscow as part of their traditional worldwide tour following the European and world championships.

There are several "MN" interviews with some of the skaters, taken in the short intervals between performances. This is our first visit to Moscow. We have been greatly impressed by the city's historical and architectural monuments, by the Muscovites' hospitality and the fine appreciation of

figure skating shown, said European and world champion Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean, of Britain. This season has been further progress in the dance, achieved through higher speeds and better skating techniques. We are now setting our sights on the new season and on the 1984 Olympics, they stressed.

We wish the European and world titles due to world champion GDR pair of Senta Bess and Tassilo Thierbach. This has been a season of unparalleled competition.

(Continued on page 8)

Main directions of PDPA activities

The national conference of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan has become an important event in the country's political and social life. This spoke Mahmood Baryalai, Candidate Member of the PDPA Central Committee's Politbureau. In an interview given to our correspondent in Kabul, this is the most representative party forum to have taken place since the April revolution. The conference laid down the Party's general policy line and the forms and methods of Party leadership to be followed in all spheres of life in Afghan society.

The conference adopted the PDPA's Action Programme. The main strategic and tactical directions of Party activity at the present stage of the April revolution were formulated. One section of the programme says that the Party considers it necessary to set up a single system for the defence of the revolution and the people, to incorporate the army, the border

GUESTS OF MOSCOW

PATRIARCHATE

Pavel, Head of the Finnish Orthodox Church and Archbishop of Karelia and All Finland, has arrived in Moscow at the invitation of the Moscow Patriarchate. The Archbishop is accompanied by a large group of staff and students from the Finnish theological seminary. The Finnish guests will spend several days in the Soviet capital before going to the Holy St. Sergius Lavra at Zagorsk, an ancient monastery situated on the old town of Pskov and Leningrad, will familiarize themselves with the activities of the Russian Orthodox Church, in particular with its activities in the field of publishing, with the training of clergy and in theological seminars and academies.

Secret operations aimed against Nicaragua

New York. The Honduran capital is turning into a center for planning secret operations against Nicaragua, reports an NBC correspondent from Tegucigalpa, quelling American diplomats and intelligence services. At present there are no more than a hundred American "advisors" in Honduras, including "experts" from command units. In one of the camps trainees from former Somoza forces who were

involved, the report stresses, in the latest acts of sabotage in Nicaragua, are undergoing training under the direction of Argentinian experts. The USA supplies them with weapons. The NBC programme host said that when asked to confirm or disprove these facts, an administration spokesman replied as follows: we are not in the habit of commenting on secret operations.

US ARMAMENTS FOR PAKISTAN

Under a military-political deal signed with Pakistan to a total sum of over 3,000 million dollars the United States has started large-scale deliveries to Pakistan of artillery pieces, tanks and other heavy combat equipment. PFI news agency reports from Islamabad, it adds that the deal envisages turning Pakistan into a strong military power in South Asia, which would indirectly protect US "vital interest" in South-West Asia, the Indian Ocean and the Middle East. In accordance with the deal, Islamabad is soon to receive 40 F-16 fighter-bombers, assault helicopters, air-to-aircraft missiles and other military hardware.

Commenting on US arms supplies to Pakistan, the Indian press stresses that Washington's "generosity" towards the Zia-ul-Haq military government is easy to explain. After the fall of the shah regime in Iran, Pakistan has in fact been playing the part of chief American ally in the region. The United States and China are using Pakistan territory to wage an undeclared war

against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. "The Times of India" said today that, according to reports reaching here, the Pakistani port of Qwaila is to become another stronghold of the US "rapid deployment force" of intervention. The US military base under construction there will control approaches to the Persian Gulf and the strategic Strait of Ormuz.

QUOTATION OF THE DAY

"It is vital to realize that today military security is achieved not by confrontation, but by joint action. This is why we need to continue working towards détente and this is why the concept of joint control over armaments, leading us to effective limitation of armaments and, hopefully, to real disarmament, is essential to us."

Willy BRANDT, Chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany



The human rights issue is a concern to us all.

Drawing by V. Chokhidi

Washington's 'Caribbean Initiative'

Washington. President Reagan has submitted to Congress a so-called economic plan for the Caribbean basin. This envisages appropriations to the tune of 350,000,000 dollars in the 1982 fiscal year in military and economic aid in order to "safeguard the security of nations friendly to America, in particular the

Junta in El Salvador, which is to get 120,000,000 dollars or 25 per cent more than was earlier planned.

The dictatorship in Honduras and Haiti will receive 40,000,000 dollars. The appropriations for the 1983 fiscal year might run into 664,000,000 dollars.

Statement by A. Sharon

Tel Aviv. Israeli Minister of Defence A. Sharon has claimed that Jerusalem must be the venue for the next stage of the US-Israeli-Egyptian "Palestinian autonomy talks" held as part of the Camp David agreement. Unless Egypt agrees to this, he threatened, the talks might not take place at all.

THE SITUATION IN POLAND

Warsaw. PAP-TASS. The next session of the PPR Sejm (parliament) will be held on March 25 to hear a government report on urgent foreign policy and agricultural problems.

The deputies will consider a number of bills on agriculture and on item on changing the PPR constitution because of the introduction of state and constitutional tribunals.

It has been officially announced that the economic committee of the PPR Council of Ministers has examined the results achieved from the fulfilment of social and economic objectives for the first two months of the year. The committee recommended that foreign trade be stepped up, particularly with socialist countries, in order to reduce the industrial production deficit.

It was stated that a fall in production in the processing industry had been noted particularly at those enterprises making of imported raw materials and semi-finished products.

AMERICAN PARATROOPERS IN SINAI

Beirut. 670 American paratroopers have landed in the southern section of Anafa Bay. They are the first detachment of the US 82nd airborne division whose soldiers are to play a leading part in the so-called "multinational force" set up by the NATO countries and their allies "to maintain peace" in the Sinai Peninsula when Israel withdrew on April 26. It has been suggested that this force be beefed up to 2,500 men, 1,500 of whom will be American.

CLOSED MEETING OF 'CONTACT GROUP'

London. Reuter-TASS. US Undersecretary of State for Africa Alfred Ch. Crocker has held a meeting of the so-called "contact group" on Namibia here in an atmosphere of secrecy. The group which comprises, Britain, France, the FRG and Canada, in addition to the USA, discussed procedures for the elections which the West suggests should be held before giving independence to Namibia.

According to leaked information, the participants in the London meeting considered possible ways of bringing pressure to bear on African states with the aim to make them "yield" to the Namibian settlement. Political observers have noted in this connection that the "contact group" meeting was accompanied by new aggressive actions on the part of the South African militia directed against the People's Republic of Angola and other "frontline" states.

Main directions of PDPA activities

(Continued from page 1)

which the PDPA intends to follow, unwaveringly, as the defence of the territorial integrity, of its state's sovereignty and independence.

Delegates to the conference would appeal to the people of Afghanistan. They declared that the Party's primary interest was to serve the country. The Party wishes for the people peace, work and bread.

Session

of Soviet-Chinese commission on shipping

Peking. The 24th session of the mixed Soviet-Chinese commission on shipping in border sections of the Amur basin rivers has taken place in Heihe.

According to the 1951 agreement, the reports of the two sides on shipment and channel dredging in 1981 were discussed as well as navigation accidents which had taken place in 1981, and 1982 plans for dredging operations by both sides. Suggestions were put forward with reference to the modification of certain items in navigational rules. Agreement was reached on most of the items under discussion and a protocol signed.

100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE POLISH WORKING MOVEMENT

Warsaw. The Politbureau of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party has approved the political and organizational aspects of the celebrations to mark this September the centenary of the Polish working class movement.

According to the PAP agency the Politbureau has announced that the Polish United Workers' Party attaches great significance to the jubilee since the party is heir to the history and achievements of the Polish working class movement. The centenary calls for a full and fair appraisal of the tremendous contribution made by the working class movement to the history of the Polish people and state.

FACTS AND EVENTS

Construction work is under way on the island of Iran situated at the mouth of Anapa Bay in the Red Sea. The Pantheon has decided to deploy three 100 servicemen from the American 82nd airborne division, the core of the rapid deployment force.

The Iranian parliament has decided to put on sale valuable items from the Saadabad and Niyasar palaces formerly belonging to the shah. Works of art will be auctioned under government supervision, while all jewellery will go to the central bank of Iran.

The US Food and Drug Administration has removed about 60 thousand tins of baby food, produced by a company in Philadelphia, from sale. Analysis of this widely advertised product showed that it may cause nervous disorders in children.

Canada's population new stands at 24,817,400 with Ontario, at 8,644 thousand people, being the most densely populated province.

Plan for developing Amazon basin

Brasilia. The Brazilian government has drawn up a new plan for developing the basin of the Amazon River which occupies nearly 60 per cent of the country's territory. In an interview, the newspaper, *Estado de Sao Paulo*, newspaper, Elias Selser, director of the Amazon basin development department, said that



El Salvador. Punitive troops carry off their defenceless victims.

PRETORIA MURDERS CIVILIANS

Luanda. A landing party of the regular South African army has razed to the ground a Namibian refugee camp near the village of Iona.

South African soldiers attacked sleeping people in the early

hours of the morning. Survivors were pursued for eight hours on the orders of South African Army General Lloyd. The majority of the two hundred people killed were women, children and the elderly.

Science and technology

SEASICKNESS CURE

People have tried to find a cure for seasickness ever since the day when the first man took to the water sitting inside a tree trunk. Thus opening up an epoch of navigation along rivers and across seas.

A short while ago, a pharmaceutical firm in the United States came out with a new anti-seasickness pill. Instead of being swallowed the pill, about the size of a dime, is stuck to a patch of hairless skin, such as that behind the ear for instance. It contains scopolamine which being absorbed through the pores enters the blood stream. One pill will last up to three days.

The firm claims that the pill effectively prevents seasickness.

CITY AIR TO BECOME PURER

The Hanel International company, Japan, has invented a device which combats pollution from car exhaust. By controlling the air to fuel ratio, the device cuts by more than half the carbon monoxide content of the exhaust and considerably reduces the emission of nitrogenous compounds.

SHIPS' HULLS CLOGGED BY GERMS

Scientists from California University in the United States have come to the conclusion that, a specific form of bacteria is responsible for ships' hulls becoming covered with barnacles. The

bacteria stick to the sides of a ship and form a dense layer on which, in turn, other organisms settle. The scientists suggest that in order to keep a ship's bottom clean, hulls should be covered with a thin layer of plastic impregnated with substances to prevent the bacteria's genetic ability to stick to surfaces.

VERSATILE MINI-BUS

The French firm of Eiler de Caster has designed a mini-bus which can be run on both diesel fuel and electricity. The mini-bus is equipped with storage batteries which are carried on a small trailer. It only takes a matter of seconds to switch from one type of energy to another. The bus which carries up to 25 passengers is expected to go into commercial production next year.

ELECTRONIC CRIB

Japanese firms have started to produce a miniature computer weighing only a kilogramme and a half. Up to 120 pages of text on any subject can be stored in its memory. By pressing the relevant keys, the owner can read the information he requires off a liquid crystal display.

OF INTEREST

Congress of pickpockets

Not long ago, pickpockets from all over the world held a congress in South Africa. According to journalists, it took place in Pretoria. Speeches were translated simultaneously into five languages. In the three days the congress lasted, delegates exchanged their experience on the art of pickpocketing and the benefits of collaboration during times in jail, and elected a "governing board". The board chairman is Brazilian Sanchez, who

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

FROM TRUMAN TO REAGAN

Thirty-five years ago the "Truman doctrine" originated overseas, writes Gennady Vostyev in PRAVDA.

Already then in the role of allies, the article stresses, Washington did not take into account the fundamental changes in the international situation and the alignment of forces in the world arena as a result of the victory over nazism. Nevertheless humanity had to go through the no easy years of "cold war", through a series of dangerous international crises before the strike on dictators and aggression was recognized as little, and the world turned its face to détente.

Yet the striving to impose American domination on the world through the position-of-strength policy remains today the core of the foreign policy efforts of the USA. Aggressive anti-communism and anti-Sovietism, the feverish arms buildup, the attempts at suppressing the national liberation movements have become distinctive features of the course pursued by the Reagan administration in the international arena.

A STAGE OF MISSED OPPORTUNITIES

A stage of missed opportunities, this is how IZVESTIA describes the latest meeting of the Madrid Conference.

The conference, which will resume in November of this year, has achieved no positive results because of the obstructive attitude which was assumed first of all by the US delegation and by delegations of a number of its NATO allies. Their designs and intentions were obvious from the first days after the resumption of the latest meeting.

Pointing out that some Western delegations try to avoid responsibility for the aggravation of the situation at the meeting and to pin the responsibility on other delegations, the newspaper states that it is the delegations of the United States and those who supported its obstructive attitude that bear the entire responsibility for the fact that the Madrid Conference has failed to complete its work at the present stage.

NUCLEAR THREAT FROM ISLAMABAD

The nuclear threat coming from Islamabad is today a very real one and it is the assistance given to Pakistan by many Western countries that has made this threat a reality, says the ASIA AND AFRICA TODAY journal.

A plant for uranium enrichment has crunched full capacity in Iskhak, 25 miles to the south of Islamabad. In the area of Rawalpindi, construction work is nearing completion on a plant for chemical enrichment of plutonium-239 from spent fuel. Pakistan even has a special place for testing nuclear weapons: a horizontal tunnel running into the mountains of Kohistan, situated approximately within 40 miles of the frontier with Afghanistan.

Islamabad's refusal to accede to the nuclear non-proliferation treaty of 1968 and to the Moscow treaty banning nuclear tests in three media, concluded in 1963, also provides an indication of Pakistan's real designs.

Apart from West European countries, other states helped Pakistan carry out its nuclear programme, the monthly says. Thus Saudi Arabia gave it financial assistance amounting to 400 million dollars for the completion of work on a bomb.

WHO STANDS IN THE WAY OF SETTLEMENT IN AFGHANISTAN

In May 1980 and August 1981, the government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan issued a wide-ranging and constructive programme for a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan. The main purpose of which was to put a complete and to aimed at any other type of external interference in the domestic affairs of Afghanistan. The non-resumption of such "interference" was also to be guaranteed.

While expressing its concern for the fate of the Afghan people, TASS states in its comment, the United States continues to train gangster-style detachments in Pakistan and to provide these detachments with weapons including chemical agents. American advisers attempt to coordinate the actions of gangsters, whose troops fight an undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Some of these leaders have even been received in the White House.

The facts speak for themselves and show in an utterly unambiguous manner who is responsible for obstructing settlement of the situation around Afghanistan. The culprits are the United States and Pakistan together with other of their accomplices in the West and East.

Eiffel Tower souvenirs

A Frenchman, Jean Cardan, has made twenty thousand souvenirs out of metal from the Eiffel Tower. Having bought for next to nothing six tonnes of metal beams which were removed from the tower during restoration work, he cut them into small 300-gramme pieces. The enterprising businessman, who has already received orders for his souvenirs from the United States, Japan, and the FRG, expects to sell each one for at least 100 dollars.

He also expects to sell each one for at least 100 dollars.

VIEWPOINT

FRESH SOVIET IMPULSE FOR DISARMAMENT

By offering to unilaterally freeze the deployment of its medium-range nuclear missiles in the European part of the USSR (and subsequently to unilaterally reduce some of them) and by expressing its readiness to undertake, together with the United States, not to deploy new types of strategic weapons such as long-range cruise sea and ground-launched missiles, the Soviet Union has again signalled in a clear and authoritative manner its willingness to cooperate in solving the vital task of curbing the arms race.

These initiatives, directed primarily at the USA, were put forward by Leonid Brezhnev in his Kremlin address to the Soviet Trade Union Congress. The Soviet leader urged maximum military restraint by both opposing blocs. In particular, he suggested scaling down the activities of the navies of both sides and removing all missile submarines from their current extensive areas of combat patrolling.

This new package of Soviet proposals is a striking indication of the Soviet wish to create the most propitious conditions for arms limitation talks at all levels. At the same time this profound and detailed initiative has the broader goal of lessening international tension and of emphas-

izing the need for cooperation rather than confrontation. Hence its direct bearing both on global problems like the resumption of détente and on problems of individual regions.

The Soviet Union has suspended the replacement of outdated SS-4 and SS-5 missiles by advanced SS-20 missiles. Earlier Moscow had suggested to Washington that for the duration of the Geneva talks a total moratorium be adopted on the installation of nuclear medium-range weapons targeted on Europe. The USSR also came up at one time with comprehensive proposals on step-by-step radical cutbacks in such weapons on both sides. This was nothing short of a true "zero" option, leading them to a level where Europe became totally free both of nuclear medium-range and tactical armaments. The American side still lacks the goodwill and realism to take positive steps in this direction, continuing to harp on its unrealistic proposal that the Soviet Union should engage on unilateral disarmament, a proposal which, naturally, the latter cannot accept.

Common sense and constructive intentions are essential in situations where ultimatums are of no avail. The Soviet Union's message is: let's stop the arms race! If it were to be re-

calced, this signal might help dismantle the stockpiles of weapons and bring about disarmament.

The USA is still bent on deploying in Western Europe a new generation of missiles — the Pershing-2 and cruise missiles.

Meanwhile Moscow is preparing to go even further in its disarmament drive — provided there is no new aggression in the world situation the USSR is prepared to unilaterally cut back a certain number of its medium-range missiles this year.

Moscow's signals and realistic moves, made on the understanding that the other side reciprocates in kind, are forcing the USA once more into making a choice in front of the whole world. Moscow again warns: if the US administration and its NATO allies pursuing the general desire for peace do go ahead with their plan to deploy hundreds of advanced American missiles in Europe capable of striking at targets on Soviet territory, a different strategic situation would take shape in the world amounting to a real additional threat to the USSR and its allies from the United States. This would force the Soviet Union to take retaliatory measures which would place the other side, American territory

Included, in similar jeopardy. This shouldn't be forgotten.

The current barriers to disarmament result, in large measure, from America's blocking of the SALT-2 Treaty and of the entire strategic arms limitation process. Hence the critical significance of Leonid Brezhnev's reminder of the need to remove these barriers. All countries and peoples look forward to this, regarding a resumption of the aforementioned process as the key to avoiding the menace of a universal nuclear holocaust.

Just how vital Brezhnev's proposals are has been corroborated by a certain measure of sensible reaction in the United States itself. Recently, Edward Kennedy, together with other American senators and a third of the House of Representatives, tables a draft resolution urging a freeze on the arsenals of both sides. This is exactly what the Soviet Union is now engaged in doing: in freezing the deployment of its medium-range missiles and in urging a mutual moratorium on the development of advanced strategic weapons, notably sea and ground-launched cruise missiles. A year ago the Soviet Union offered a mutual moratorium on the development of new types of missile submarines.

Such is the new peace challenge from Moscow. The Washington just seems unable to match, in striking contrast to the constructive Soviet approach, Reagan hardened to brush aside Kennedy's suggestion. But what alternative does the US Administration offer the world? As Leonid Brezhnev has pointed out, we see the answer not in the context of a restricted stockpiling of weapons, but in the context of reaching verifiable accords with the other side on a mutual lowering of the level of military confrontation.

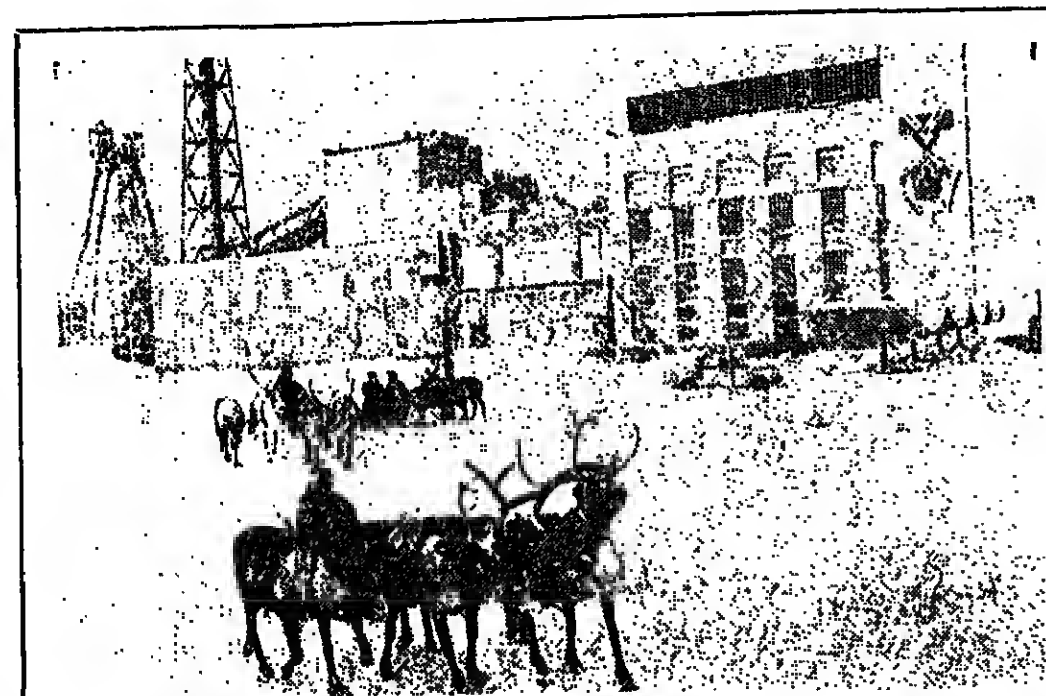
Round the Soviet Union

● AN ORIGINAL BUILDING RESEMBLING A STONE FLOWER WITH 22 PETALS NOW GRACES THE CENTRE OF THE CITY OF CHELYABINSK IN THE URALES, WHICH HAS A POPULATION OF OVER 1,000,000. The new building which houses the regional drama theatre was designed by a local architect. The theatre has two stages: the main with an auditorium seating 900 people, and an experimental stage. The walls of the lobby and the staircase are lined in marble, and Ural stone and decorated with cast-iron mouldings.

● A FILM CREW FROM THE EAST SIBERIAN DOCUMENTARY STUDIOS HAS STARTED SHOOTING A DOCUMENTARY, "30 MINUTES AROUND YAKUTIA", DEDICATED TO THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE USSR. It will tell of the changes in the life of the people inhabiting this northern area who up to 1917 didn't even have an alphabet of their own. Viewers will be taken on a tour of the diamond mines in Mirny, of the enterprises of the South-Yakutia territorial-production complex, and of the laboratories of the Institute of Space Physical Research and Aeronomy.

● THE LOKTEV DANCE AND SONG ENSEMBLE HAS CELEBRATED ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY. This children's ensemble from Moscow is made up of 1,400 children who play in orchestras, sing in choirs and dance. The ensemble has toured many countries including the GDR, Poland, Syria, France, Finland, the Netherlands and Norway.

● CONSTRUCTION IS NOW BEING COMPLETED OF ANOTHER PLATFORM WHICH IS PART OF THE OFFSHORE OIL FIELD IN THE CASPIAN. The platform will possess two oil rigs, multi-story blocks of flats, a hall, a cafe and a medical post. The platform is located 120 kilometers from the Azerbaijan capital, Baku. It will increase the area of the Caspian oil fields in the Caspian.



A PIT BEYOND THE ARCTIC CIRCLE

This picture was taken in the Far North, at the Vurchashor coal mine in the Komi ASSR. The mine is located in a remote area of the Komi language, "rudek" track in the Komi language. Indeed, only 18 years ago rudery tracks passed through the area.

The rapid development of industry, such as oil, coal-mining and timber processing in the northern areas of our country has resulted in the rapid growth of new industrial centres. The American scientists A. Asanov and M. Mallor, who visited the Soviet North, have called the scope of construction there a fantastic reality.

Densities of towns have been built beyond the

Arctic Circle, among them Vorkuta, a large coal-mining centre. The Vurchashor pit is only 40 kilometers from Vorkuta and is part of the Vorkutalug association. Every fifth tonne of coal produced by the association comes from this pit which has a daily output of over 15,000 tonnes. Operations at the pit are 100 per cent mechanized and automated. As distinct from most Western countries the USSR has never written off the coal industry as having no future and has invested production all over the country, including in the Far North. Daily output nationwide is now around 2,000,000 tonnes, or 20 times what it was half a century ago.

A NEW RESIDENTIAL AREA IN BREST

Construction is now taking place for a new residential area in Brest, a Soviet border town well known to visitors from Western Europe. The builders had to raise the site level by 3.5 metres to lay foundations for the houses.

Our town lacks vacant build-

ing space, comments Brest's leading architect V. Gopichenko, and so we decided to build on marshlands between the Mukhavets and Western Bug rivers that is unsuitable for agriculture. To this end, he continued, we will have to shift 11,000,000 cu m of soil from natural quarries. A lake which will form in one such quarry will become the centre of a park zone, and the second one, some distance away from the new borough destined to house 100,000 residents, will gather rainwater.

OIL GUSHER STRUCK

A well 3,900 m deep at the Muradkhani deposit in Azerbaijan is producing 800 tonnes of oil daily, the largest quantity from operating wells in the Transcaucasian republic.

Experts believe that prospectors might discover more deep underground cracks and links filled with oil, and this is why drilling is now under way at another 10 test wells in the region.

VINICULTURE IN TURKMENIA

Major viticulture zone is being established in Turkmenia, the southernmost Soviet Central Asian Republic, on lands irrigated by water, supplied by the 1,100-kilometre Karakum Canal. Vineyards will cover an area of 20 thousand hectares under the 1981-85 five-year plan. They will make the Ashkhabad region Turkmenia's largest grape producer. The republic's most productive vineyards are being established at the foothills of the Koyat-Dag Mountains.

The cultivation of the vineyards will be fully mechanized and plans have provided for wine and juice raising facilities.

It is envisaged that Turkmenia's grape output will reach 130 thousand tonnes by 1985, twice as much as last year.

AUTOMATIC DEVICES CONTROL TURBINE OPERATIONS

Reliable and economical operation of superpowerful turbines is ensured by an automatic control system designed by engineers and scientists from Khar'kov. The first complex of their electronic instruments is specifically constructed for the Yuzhno-Ukrainskaya nuclear power station.

The system is programmed to control mechanisms that regulate the supply of steam, water and lubricants and their temperatures and pressure. It signals deviations, occurs, the automatic instruments will either reduce or increase the machine's rpm, strictly maintaining its established power rating.

This new complex fitted with a micro-computer is also versatile, and in adapting it for use with different types of machines it is only necessary to change its programme. These automatic instruments will be fitted to turbines rated at one million and 750 thousand kilowatts installed at other nuclear power stations.

Places to visit

MOSCOW'S FIRST LERMONTOV MUSEUM

Mikhail Lermontov lived in a number of places—Moscow, St Petersburg, Tarkhany and the Caucasus. Yet, he began his career as a poet here in Moscow, which he always called warm and kind. Lermontov's short life was remarkably rich in creative work.

It was his home in the one-storey pink-coloured house with a mansard roof, situated on Malaya Molchanovskaya St in a typical corner of old Moscow, that the 16-year-old poet proudly brought back one day a magazine containing his first published work. Together with some of the poet's other belongings this magazine can now be seen in Moscow's first Lermontov Museum which has just opened in the house.

Before he stands the old building just as the young poet knew it.

As a student, Lermontov had numerous interests—poetry, music and painting. In his study there are manuscripts, a painting table, a chess set and a music copybook.

In the parlour hung portraits of members of Lermontov's family made by well-known artists in Tarkhany, as well as drawings, water-colours and paintings done by Lermontov himself.

The loving work that has gone into the creation of this museum, an invaluable testimony of the life of a great Russian poet, is deserving of respect.

How old is Bukhara?

Until quite recently there were several ideas about when the city of Bukhara was first established. A final conclusion was put forward by scholars from the Institute of Archaeology of the Uzbek Academy of Sciences.

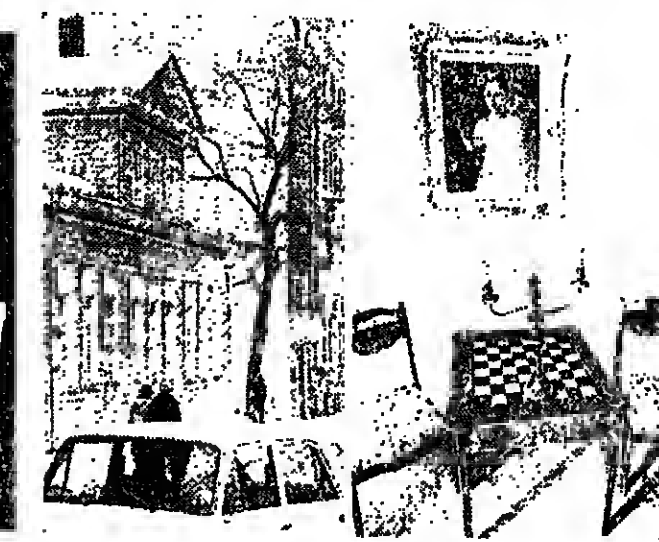
OF INTEREST

FLATS FOR STORKS

When they return from warm parts to Lithuania white storks will find thousands of new "flats" ready for them. Stork dwellings have been built on water pumping stations, on the roofs of houses and on the tops of birch trees.

Since time out of mind the Lithuanian peasant has looked on the stork as a symbol of family happiness and for this reason they try to attract the bird to their homes. In Sausuolėliai, for instance, a stork couple settled in the chimney of the local school. Each autumn, their nest is carefully removed by young men to be put back into place in spring. Many people living on the new residential estates, however, tend to forget this custom. Trying to keep up with the times the storks themselves have taken to building their nests on the pylons of electric transmission lines and on telegraph poles.

Much love and care is devoted to the black storks which have become quite rare in Europe. Their places of habitation have been declared bird sanctuaries by Lithuania's Committee for Nature Conservation.



Lermontov's house on Malaya Molchanovskaya St, now a museum dedicated to his memory.

The chess table on which the poet was fond of playing with his friends. On the wall hangs a portrait of the future poet.



Lermontov's violin.

ABC BOOK FOR KARA KALPAKS

It is fifty-five years since the alphabet and the first ABC book were printed in the Kara Kalpak language.

The system of writing for the Kara Kalpaks was devised by Nuraddin Sag'lov, a primary school teacher from Chimbai. This graduate from the Tashkent Teacher Training College, together with the writer Salolgebi Mazhlov designed the present Kara Kalpak alphabet and wrote the first ABC book in 1927 based upon their language system.

HEALTH RESORT IN SIBERIA

More and more people are going to recuperate at Shvendia, the oldest resort in Eastern Siberia. They are attracted here by the effective methods of treatment, medicinal waters and the climate therapy. Many buildings have been reconstructed.



Garegin Manukyan works as a toymaker at a spinning wheel in Leningrad, Armenia. His past time is in the photo: wood-carving. His wood-carvings, which are highly valued by "professors" now fill a whole gallery.

Science and technology

ANTARCTIC'S 'WHITE CHRONICLE'

A unique ice core sample taken from a binnacle at the Antarctic "Vostok" station was entitled by specialists as a 100,000-year-old "Chronicle" of our planet. The host drill employed for the boring of the Antarctic ice cap was sunk to a depth of 2,000 metres. This was made possible due to the employment of a high-frequency current in the drilling machine, which was developed jointly by the Soviet and the Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute.

Boring the ice cap at the "Vostok" station—today an important part of the Soviet research programme in the Antarctic. The scientists intend drilling through the four-kilometre layer of ice to the rock foundation of the sixth continent.

The new 112 mm drilling machine is capable of attaining a high drilling speed—up to five metres per hour. It is also highly reliable and consumes little power, which is particularly important since the station stands 1,200 kilometres from the coast line.

The ice core sample part of which has already been taken to Leningrad contains information concerning not only the climate changes of the past, but also all bubbles, particles of outer space dust, pollen and pollen of ancient plants, macro-organisms carried by winds from other continents and "fossils" in the Antarctic by man.

BYELORUSSIANS LIVE ON VOLCANOES!

People who live in the small Byelorussian towns of Lanyer and Biagun are not in the least worried about living on top of volcanoes.

Scientists have discovered, at a depth of 900 metres, the remnants of volcanic boulders and proved that the two towns rest on the crests of extinct volcanoes.

The fact is that during the Devonian period in the Earth's geological past, the Pripyat depression in Byelorussia was situated at the bottom of the sea. This had been rocked by powerful volcanic eruptions.

The study of ancient volcanoes in Byelorussia, which is regarded as an unlikely place for earthquakes or eruptions, caused great interest. These volcanoes not only yield valuable information regarding the Earth's crust, but also provide useful mineral deposits in the territory of Byelorussia.

The results of these discoveries will aid future prospecting for ore deposits of both the ferrous and non-ferrous metals.

VIEWPOINT

MULTINATIONAL CHARACTER OF SOVIET LITERATURE

Georgi LOMIDZE, Corresponding Member of the USSR Academy of Sciences

Though Soviet literature is made up of 77 national literatures, it is united in the ideas it promotes, in its approach to the radical problems of good and evil, and in its humanism, internationalism and idealism.

Thus the concept of "multinational Soviet literature" means not so much a pluralism of ideologies and ideas, as a literature of varied artistic shades and potentials, expressing different aesthetic visions and interpretations of the world, and containing an abundance of plots, conflicts and human characters.

The history of the written tradition in the numerous national Soviet literatures varies in length. According to the length of their written "record", our literatures can be divided into three groups.

The first group is made up of literatures having a long history behind them and old and rich traditions, such as the Russian, Ukrainian, Byelorussian, Georgian, Azerbaijani, Armenian, Uzbek, Tajik, Turkmen and Tatar literatures.

The second group contains literatures of more recent date which before the 1917 Socialist Revolution had evolved a written tradition and a monumental bulk of their own. The Kazakh, Buryat, Mari, Kalmyk, Abkhazian, Yakut and Kabardian literatures are among those which fall into this group.

In the third category come the peoples who had no system of writing before the revolution. These include many nationalities in the Far North, the Caucasus and Central Asia.

These new literatures have produced quite a spate of talented writers. Prominent among the latter is Kirgizian author Chingiz Aitmatov, while Yuri Rykhter, a Chukche, Mstislav Yuzvich Sheshtev, Nektar Grigory Khodzhiev and Nivkhi Vladimir Sangi are well known all over the USSR.

Though they missed out on a long process of development, these literatures were not slow in mastering and new modern standards of artistic creation. This phenomenon can only be explained by the social and moral climate in this country and by the generous exchange of collective artistic experience.

This country does not divide literatures into big and small depending on the number of people they represent. Yakagris Semov, Kurlov, who belongs to a nationality of 800 people living in the North, wrote a splendid novel "Khaidak and Khaidakha", which is complex in structure, has a gripping plot and raises many problems.

To a mind of a somewhat primitive and vulgar bent, it might seem that as these nationalities and their national cultures draw closer together, their "national resources" of literature and the arts could be depleted. In fact, the reverse is the case for the quantity and quality of our multinational literature are constantly growing. Whereas in 1917 we had only twenty-five literatures, today, as I have said, we have 77.

I would compare the Soviet national literatures with communicating vessels. The best works that are created in each national literature become a common heritage.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

ELECTRIC ENERGY: MAJOR BRANCH OF THE ECONOMY

The power industry is a major branch of the Soviet economy, writes EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA. In the five-year-plan period of 1981-85, the production of electric energy will go up by 280,000 million kilowatt hours to reach a total of 1,355,000 million kilowatt hours. The share of energy produced by atomic power stations will be increased from 5.6 per cent in 1980 to 14.1 per cent in 1985, while the share generated by thermal power stations will go down from 80.2 to 71.1 per cent.

The unified electric power system of the USSR incorporates the nine joint electric power grids in the North-West, the Centre, the Middle Volga, the South, the North Caucasus, Transcaucasia, the Ural, Kazakhstan and Siberia. A single centre controls about 83 per cent of the capacity of the country's stations. The USSR unified electric power system is connected to the power systems of the socialist community countries.

URBAN AND RURAL POPULATION IN THE USSR

An indicator of the social structure of our urban and rural population is evening out can be seen from a study of their educational levels, writes the POLITCHESKOYE SAMOOBRAZOVANIYE magazine. While in 1939 there were 242 persons with a higher or secondary (complete or incomplete) education per 1,000 population in the cities as compared with 83 in the country (almost a fourfold difference), the 1981 figures were respectively 880 and 736.

The rural and urban population are also drawing closer as regards their incomes. Here are some figures. In 1985 the average monthly wage for industrial workers was 101.7 rubles and 72.5 rubles for sto-

larm workers; the 1980 figures were 183.5 and 140 rubles respectively. It is of significance that along with workers normally receive supplementary incomes from their small holdings. As for collective farmers, their real incomes, as compared to those of factory and office workers per family member, rose from 75 per cent in 1965 to 89 per cent in 1980. It was stressed at the 26th CPSU Congress that in the 11th five-year-plan period the incomes of collective farmers will come very close to those of the factory and office workers, with account being taken of the incomes deriving from small holdings.

20 YEARS IN SPACE

Twenty years ago, on March 10, 1962, the first satellite of the Kosmos series was launched into orbit thus putting a start to the implementation of a programme for the study of the upper atmosphere, layers and outer terrestrial space writes Vyacheslav Balchikov, Deputy Director of the Institute of Space Research of the USSR Academy of Sciences, in IZVESTIA.

Over 1,300 satellites of the Kosmos series have been launched over this period. They have provided a wealth of valuable information, relating in particular to the problem of the Earth's radiation belts. The interaction between radiation belts and the solar radiation and geomagnetic disturbances have been studied and radiation maps for various altitudes compiled. This is essential in order to ensure protection from radiation for human flights into space.

The fact that analytical instrumentation has been launched into orbit has opened up opportunities for studying objects in space which were inaccessible to investigation from the Earth.

Satellites of the Kosmos series have made a considerable contribution to space biology and medicine and to the study of the impact of extended weightlessness and unfiltered gravitation on the human organism. They have provided considerable help in carrying out the Vostok, Voshod and Soyuz missions and have

facilitated the verification of the development of orbital stations.

Recently scientists have been able to make use of more powerful space technology, including general-purpose orbital station-and-satellite having an expanded research capability. This means that more wide-ranging research in space is now possible.

TO UNDERSTAND SOMEONE ELSE'S PAIN IS A WRITER'S MAIN QUALITY

I believe the ability to feel someone else's pain is a major quality in a writer, says author Grigory Baklanov in KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, analyzing the work of a writer. I am not the first person to have repeated the famous 19th-century Russian writer Herzen when he said: we are not doctors, we are pain. And we should not have the illusion that art can heal. Art can awaken one's conscience, intellect with passion, and art can, for example, help the healing of a good individual himself. The essential requisites for a good writer, Baklanov continues, in addition to talent, are willpower, tremendous willpower, industry and, of a certain point, asceticism.

All of us are, of course, good people when we are alone. But to live a moral life among others, without betraying one's conscience or of another's exposure, without impinging or oppressing upon the interests of others is a much more difficult task than building a wonderful life in solitude. Both great and not great writers have expended their talents precisely for this aim: to live a moral life in the world among people; how one should live with another person without which, of course, harmony in human relations without which, of course, the world would perish. The greater the writer the less role is played in his work by such factors as, for instance, ambition. Excessively ambitious people, I am sure, are vaguely aware of their vulnerability, although they would not admit it for love or money.

Special 10

Theatre, Cinema and TV Stars

Tatyana MITINA

Culture. Days of modern French music in the Soviet Union are of classical Russian and Soviet music in France have become a noteworthy feature of cooperation between the two countries. Paris audiences will see the Leningrad Khay Ballet Company in "Swan Lake," "Casse-Noisette," "La Sylphide" and a programme of one-act ballets. In exchange, the famous Comedie-Francaise is to tour the USSR.

Taakred GOLBNPOISKY

During the festival there was a retrospective showing of films by Larisa Shapitko. These included "Swallow", "The Accant", "Wings", "You and Me" and a documentary called "Larisa".



In the photo: a scene from the dance, "Aragan Jola", performed by Viktor Nikitushkin (left) and Grigory Zakharov.

March 20-22

FILMS DATE **TIME**

Everything's a Topsy-Turvy
(Gorky Film Studios)
A lyric comedy about
young lovers.

Plot of paintings by Popkov to mark the 50th anniversary of the artist's birth. The second retrospective exhibition of Popkov's work. Daily, Monday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Novokuznetskaya.

Exhibition Hall, USSR Academy of Arts, 20 Kuznetsky Most, Moscow
 (Modern Enamel Art), exhibition featuring works by artists and drawers, sculptors, painters, engravers, silversmiths, draftsmen, ornamental artists, daily objects, etc.
 Monday, 1 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 Muz. Miro, Kuznetsky Most, Moscow
 (Soviet Toys and Games), exhibition featuring toys and games of the USSR.
 Monday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 Muz. Miro, Kuznetsky Most, Moscow
 (Soviet Toys and Games), exhibition featuring toys and games of the USSR.
 Monday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The 52nd International Antioch has come to an end here, it was held in the Palexpo, Geneva's new palace of exhibitions and congresses, one of the largest buildings of its kind in Europe.

Automobiles and related products from 27 countries, including the Soviet Union, were displayed over 40,000 square metres of floor space.

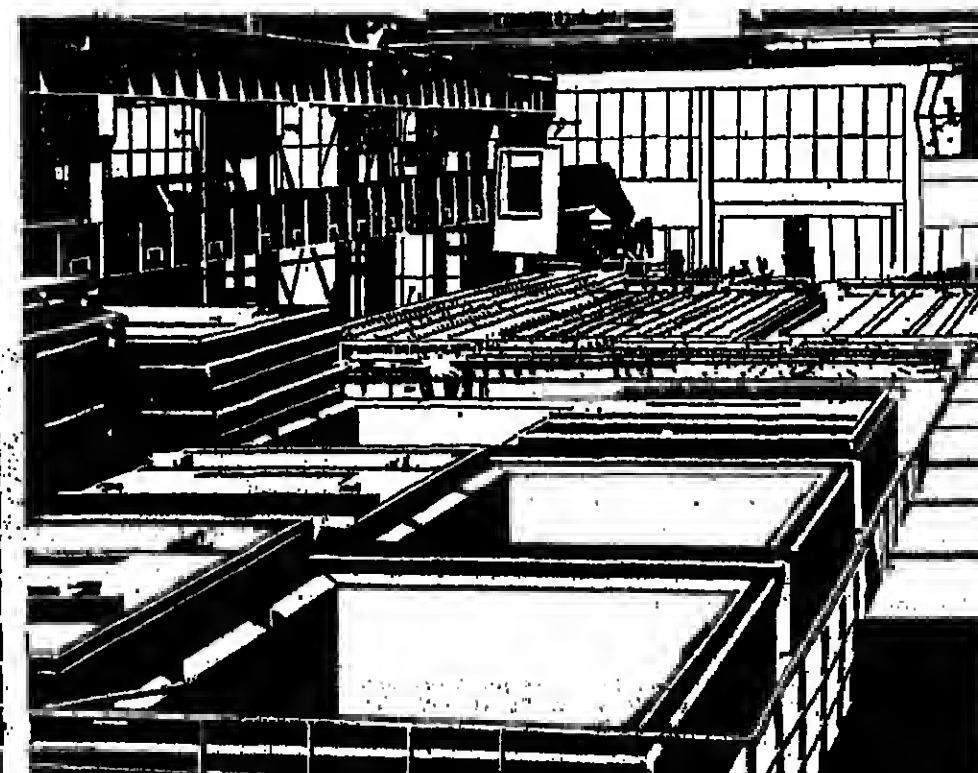
More than half a million people visited the exhibition. They were shown over 1,200 automobiles of various makes and classes, as well as garage equipment, accessories and technical literature. As in the case of other major Soviet Lada cars were particularly popular.

DAY TRIPS
Metro 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 5 kopeks.
Volleyskaya 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 4 kopeks.
Tvers 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 5 kopeks.
Tvers 6.30 a.m. to 1.30 a.m. Fare 3 kopeks.
Taxis 24-hour service. Twenty kopeks on the meter
plus 20 kopeks per kilometre.
Ordering a cab 24-hour service. Telephone 225-00-00.
Communal cabs (over 40 routes in the city)
7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fare 13 kopeks.

March 20-22

The cold air from the Kara Sea has reached the Caspian and northern Central Asia, bringing much colder weather, precipitation and high winds. The waves in the Caspian off the Apsheron Peninsula are 2-3 meters high.

For further information please contact V/O "Technostroyexport",
18/1 Ovchinnikovskaya nab., 113324, Moscow, USSR.
Telegraph Technostroyexport, Moscow, USSR
Dial 220-14-48, 220-16-70



The Kharkov scientific research institute of chemical engineering has become an important centre for developing these plants. The world's biggest paper press, now used to protect Lake Baikal from pollution, was designed by the institute. Larkba has expressed interest in producing paper presses jointly with the USSR to be marketed in the West.